



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/038,025 | 01/02/2002 | Jeffrey Pigg | 07971-0100 | 7068 |

3490 7590 08/19/2003

DOUGLAS T. JOHNSON
MILLER & MARTIN
1000 VOLUNTEER BUILDING
832 GEORGIA AVENUE
CHATTANOOGA, TN 37402-2289

EXAMINER

THOMAS, COURTNEY D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2882

DATE MAILED: 08/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/038,025

Applicant(s)

PIGG, JEFFREY

Examiner

Courtney Thomas

Art Unit

2882

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 21-41 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 January 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4. 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
2. The Background of the Invention, p. 2, lines 21- 22 notes that Prior Art Figure 1 does not show rear side tracks. However, in the same discussion of Fig. 1, rear tracks (106) are indicated as being shown (p.3, line 4). Examiner notes that rear tracks (106) are not shown in Fig. 1. (see Drawing section below).
3. Examiner notes that there is no Fig. 5 or Fig. 6, per say, but Figs. 5a, 5b, 6a and 6b. The disclosure on p. 8, lines 17-18 should be written to reflect this distinction.
4. Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

5. The drawings are objected to because:
6. a) Fig. 1 does not illustrate rear tracks (106) – see disclosure p.3, line 4
7. b) Fig. 1 does not illustrate a mounting pin (109) – see disclosure p. 3, line 6.
8. c) Fig. 3 does not illustrate an X-ray film cassette (15) – see disclosure p. 8, lines 7-8; p. 9, line 18. (Examiner notes that Fig. 3 shows an element 13, assumed to be an X-ray film cassette; Fig. 4 shows the X-ray film cassette (15)).
9. d) Fig. 7, does not illustrate upright restraint (30) – see disclosure p. 13, line 3
10. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Allowable Subject Matter

11. Claims 21-41 are allowed.

12. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

13. **As per claim 21 and 22 and dependent claims 23-27**, the examiner found no reference in the prior art that disclosed or made obvious an apparatus comprising a vertical film cassette positioner comprising a dial knob having a first end attached to a tray and a connecting portion passing through a vertical groove to a control portion for engaging and disengaging a cassette tray with a vertical portion and a second dial knob with a control portion, a connecting portion passing through a horizontal portion of an L-angle, the horizontal portion having a groove and a first end attached to a block as recited in independent claims 21 and 22.

14. **As per claim 28, 33 and 40 and dependent claims 29-32 34-39 and 41**, the examiner found no reference in the prior art that disclosed or made obvious an apparatus comprising an upright restraint fastening mechanism comprising a first upright restraint, a strap attached to the first upright, the strap having a first side having a first fastenable material and a second upright restraint having a second fastenable material attached thereon wherein the first and second fastenable materials may be removably connected as recited in independent claims 28, 33 and 40.

Conclusion

15. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:
as noted above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Art Unit: 2882

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney Thomas whose telephone number is (703) 306-0473. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F (9 am - 5 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Glick can be reached on (703) 308 4858. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9318 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0530.

Courtney Thomas

August 12, 2003



Craig E. Church
Primary Examiner